

Message Text

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P 210105Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017114

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE PARA 5 OF MOSCOW 864, WE TAKE THIS TO MEAN THAT THE ONBOARD REPLACEMENT WE TALKED ABOUT FOR BILL IN 1979 IS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO REPLACE HIM THIS SUMMER. THAT IS, HE COULD NOT SUFFICIENTLY UNDERSTUDY BILL OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS FROM THE SLOT YOU NOW HAVE TO FILL. IF THAT IS THE CASE, AND THIS IS THE POSSIBILITY WE WANTED TO TRY OUT, THEN PERFECT AS HE WOULD OTHERWISE BE, WE CAN'T ASK FOR BILL TO REPLACE MEL HERE. WE DO NOT HAVE A CANDIDATE AT THIS END WHO COULD REPLACE BILL THIS SUMMER, AND DOUBT WE COULD FIND A GOOD ONE IN TIME.

2. HEW'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHMOND HAS AGREED TO DELETION OF THE PARAGRAPH ON THE PRESS, AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR EARLIER MESSAGE RE HIS LETTER TO VENEDIKTOV. HEW
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ASKED THAT YOU FORWARD THE MESSAGE TO VENEDIKTOVK WITH THE PARAGRAPH REMOVED. THEY PREFER NOT TO DO UP ANOTHER ORIGINAL AND SUGGESTED THAT YOU SIGN, E.G. "JFM FOR" OR OTHER FORMAT OBVIATING NEED FOR RICHMOND PERSONAL SIGNATURE.

3. RE MOSCOW 933, PARA 10 ABOUT COSTAKIS: IN FEBRUARY

NP NUMBERS WILL MOVE UP TO APRIL, 1976 PRIORITY DATES.
IF COSTAKIS' DATE IS NOT UNTIL JANUARY, 1977 RPT 1977,
HIS DATE MAY NOT BE REACHED FOR A LONG TIME. YOU
MIGHT REEXAMINE WHETHER HE COULD BE ACCORDED AN EARLIER
PRIORITY DATE.

4. WHEN YOU SEE BORIS NIKOLAYEVICH OFF AT AIRPORT, YOU
SHOULD KNOW THAT HE PROBABLY WILL HAVE LEARNED FROM
TOLYA THAT THE APPOINTMENT HE DEARLY WANTED IS CONFIRMED
FOR WEDNESDAY. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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